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Thoughts
and Things

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THOUGHTS AND THINGS

BY
FRANK PIXLEY, LITT. D.

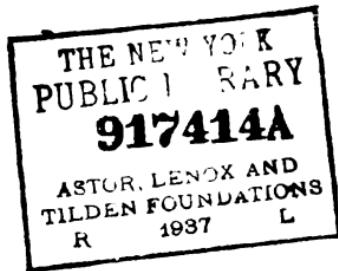
AUTHOR OF "THE PRINCE OF PILSEN," "KING DODO,"
"THE BURGOMASTER," "WOODLAND," "THE GRAND
MOGUL," "MARCELLE," ETC., ETC.



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ANONYMOUS
SALVADOR
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**TO MY WIFE
"BILLIE"**

**The constant inspiration
which emboldened me to
undertake this little work.**

THE AUTHOR.

MANUFACTURED FROM C. & C. OCT 14 1937

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

BY

FRANK PIXLEY

*

LIFE is a beach on the ocean of eternity. A few of us pick up pretty pebbles; others find, now and then, a shell; but too many merely play in the sand.

*

A CHILD'S life is bounded by what he sees; a man's by what he achieves; a woman's by what she feels.

*

WHENEVER a woman makes a fool

I

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

of a man why blame the woman instead
of the fool?



THE plant of happiness blooms best
after it has been watered by tears.



IT is easy for a night hawk to be
virtuous in the morning.



You can give nothing from the heart
except what you put into it.



No man can know the world until
he knows himself.



No one ever is wholly bad ; those who
are wholly good are dead.

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

THROUGH woman man once lost
Paradise; through her he now regains
it.

¶

ONE who does not want advice generally needs it.

¶

LAUGH, whether the world laughs with you or not; it is the best medicine.

¶

A BELIEF which makes one better is good, even if it be fallacious.

¶

LEAVE a lie alone and it soon will wear its wings out.

¶

ON the stage of life Conscience must ever be the prompter.

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

WHEN the clock strikes regard it not as the knell of an hour that has gone forever but as the trumpet call of a new hour summoning you to activity.

**

HAPPINESS is a personal equation; the crow likes carrion.

**

LOVE is the master musician who harmonizes all the varying chords of life.

**

FAMILY jars never should be used for preserving domestic happiness.

**

WORDS are gems; but to reflect thought most effectively they must be

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

given a setting of directness and simplicity.

¶

LIFE is a mosaic. Nature furnishes the materials; the pattern we must shape for ourselves.

¶

A MAN can make everything except a home; only a woman can do that.

¶

NEVER try to surpass someone else; strive to surpass yourself.

¶

KEEP to the right.

¶

THE declaration of independence to the contrary notwithstanding, all men

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

are not created equal. One man may be born with perfect development, good health and normal impulses, another may be born with a heritage of disease, deformity and degeneration. Only those who at birth are normal in every particular start even in the race of life.

58

A PESSIMIST is one who believes that every cherry contains a worm.

59

TEMPER is a most valuable thing; don't lose it.

60

IT is not always wise to "begin at the beginning" of things. Otherwise one never could go up-stream.

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

CHILDHOOD is the age of beauty. There are few things in nature more beautiful than a clear mountain brook. Later, in its course to the sea, it becomes contaminated by contact with the world. A muddy stream may be powerful — it may be useful — but it is no longer beautiful because it is no longer pure.

38

AN ounce of performance is worth a pound of promise.

39

A GREAT forest tree is a glorious thing! The storms of life may beat against it; the blasts of adversity may

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

shake it to the very foundation; but from each attack it gains new strength and, sending its roots deeper into the earth, it lifts its head still nearer to Heaven.

58

RESPECT for yourself demands politeness toward others and politeness always pays compound interest.

59

STUPIDITY is the one unpardonable sin which nothing can mitigate or excuse.

60

A MATCH, matrimonially considered or otherwise, rarely amounts to much without a little friction.

8

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

IF there were no eye there would be neither light nor color; if there were no ear the universe would be dumb. The rainbow exists only in the brain of the beholder and the thunderous roar of mighty Niagara is absolute silence except within a limited sphere of conscious intelligence. —Mind is the measure of all things.—

38

JEALOUSY is merely an acute inflammation of the affections.

39

NATURE paints her most glorious colors in the sunset sky. It is her silent benediction at the close of day. Far

9

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

away, in other lands, the splendors which mark our sunset hour are heralded as the radiant glow of sunrise, ushering in another day of activity and achievement. And so, also, the sunset of life merely marks the dawn of eternity.

*
*

A DEATH-BED repentance is of no earthly use.

*
*

BEFORE you sleep at night balance the books of another day that has gone forever. Note carefully the hopes it fulfilled and the disappointments it brought and consider your personal responsibility in contributing to the results. Then, with renewed power gained by

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

new experience, face the coming morn
determined to do better.

58

— **H**E who merely dreams of good deeds
is a promise never fulfilled. The
world always judges by results, not in-
tentions. —

59

HOPE whispers that death is not the
end, but the beginning, of life.

60

— **N**o pool ever was too muddy to pro-
duce a water lily. If your environ-
ments are bad, improve them; if they
are good, make them improve you. —

61

REPUTATION is the world's estimate

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

of a man; character is what he is.
—Slander may harm one's reputation, but
it can not affect one's character.

¶

IT is worry, not work, that kills.
Better wear out than rust out.

¶

WHEN you argue with a fool he is
your superior.

¶

I SEE no grandeur in a great mountain. The Titanic forces which piled up those giant rocks may have been grand but the result is not. Nor do I see any grandeur in Niagara, whose restless waters merely tumble over a precipice in obedience to the unchang-

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

ing law of gravity. But when I behold a poor human soul, handicapped by heredity and environment and poverty and lack of opportunity, but adhering steadfastly to the loftiest ideals and pressing forward to still nobler achievements, in that I recognize true grandeur.



DEATH is not a mystery; life is.



HAVE you lost hope? Then the robin, singing through a spring shower, has a message for you.



BEWARE of the woman who likes neither flowers nor music and avoid the man whom a dog will not follow.

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

— THE restless desire for something new is the basis of all passion and all progress. —

8

MANY different roads may ultimately lead to the same destination. Who shall say that any religious creed is right or wrong?

8

WRINKLES deepen every time they are filled with tears. They always are overlooked when smiles play hide-and-seek in them.

8

— THE greatest happiness is giving happiness to others. —

8

MORALITY is largely a matter of cus-

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

tom, environment and location, and virtue is more a question of temperament than of temptation.

58

IN this life nothing is absolutely certain except uncertainty.

59

WHAT is more fragrant than the breath of a spring rain? Nature's sigh of satisfaction is sweeter than the odors of a thousand flowers. And what music is more beautiful than the laughter of the brook, the whisper of the breeze and the tattoo of the rain on the roof?

60

A KISS may mean nothing, something, or everything.

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

IF you would know whether there is gold in an ore try it by fire. | It requires temptation to prove virtue. |

88

IT takes a clash to test a sword or a man.

89

To live in harmony with the world, in close communion with Nature, in peace and contentment with my surroundings and with the commendation of my conscience; to labor faithfully; to do the best I can; to practice what I believe to be right, with charity always and malice never; to deal honestly with all questions and honorably with all men — this is my creed.

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

NOTHING can warm you if your heart be cold.

SOLITUDE is the chief counselor, guide, friend and inspiration of thought.

SHAPE the future by controlling to-day.

IN childhood the greatest question is "Why?" In youth, "How?" In young manhood, "What?" In old age, "Whither?"

IT is better to be misjudged than to be ignored. Time will correct any error of judgment.

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

—THRICE blessed is the man who knows himself, knows also his work and does it. —

58

WHAT the young call love generally is emotional insanity.

59

A CONCEITED man is a fool who is glad of it.

60

THE path of Happiness often leads through the field of Forgetfulness.

61

— STEADY habits are bad. Change, in all things, is essential to the highest growth and the greatest development. —

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

MISTAKES may easily be condoned;
but do not imagine that the world ever
will erase a blot on one's character.

8

THE only man who never makes a
fool of himself is a fool.

8

—WERE there no clouds there would
be no rainbow. If you would behold
the most beautiful sight in the world
look at life's happiness through tears. —

8

THERE is as much difference be-
tween love and lust as there is between
daylight and darkness. There is only
one kind of love.

19

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

EVERY day of your life is a blank page; write nothing on it which you ever may wish to erase.

*
*

Do not discount the future.

*
*

LIFE is a flash of light in the darkness of uncertainty.

*
*

THE quickest way to reform the world is to reform yourself.

*
*

SOMEONE with a penchant for scientific mysteries would perform a most valuable service for humanity if he would figure out the exact relation of dyspepsia and deviltry.

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

IT is your right to be happy if you deserve to be so. Claim it!

38

IN the school of experience the brightest pupil is the one who learns his lessons quickest and remembers them longest.

38

THE man who is striving to do what he is not best fitted for is a square peg in a round hole.

38

IT is as hard to bear prosperity worthily as it is to bear adversity submissively.

38

REGRET may sadden the soul, but remorse gnaws into it.

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

FREEDOM has one wayward son —
License.



VANITY is a soap bubble blown by
Inexperience.



MANY a man thinks he is seeking
fame when in reality he merely is in-
viting notoriety.



CRITICISM is valuable only when it is
based on wisdom; and its noblest func-
tion is to point out beauties, not to pick
at flaws.



MONEY lent means certain loss. If

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

it be repaid the borrower will hate you;
if not, you will hate him.

❀

—LOVE gives everything and asks but
one thing — constancy.—

❀

PLEASURE is the child of an hour;
Happiness is the child of eternity.

❀

—Do not be afraid to be different
whenever to be different means to be
better.—

❀

LAUGH at your own misfortunes al-
ways; at the misfortunes of another
never.

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

THE greatest force for evil in the world is fear. Fear anything and ultimately it becomes your master.

—
WHEN a man is merely an animal he is the lowest of all brutes.

¶

Poverty without industry is a disgrace; with industry it is oppression.

¶

A MARRIAGE is recorded by the wedding ceremony, not made by it.

¶

IF you do not intend to keep your word do not give it.

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

ONE who has nothing always is willing to share it with everyone.



— No star ever rose and set, no flower ever bloomed, no breeze ever blew, no raindrop ever fell without influence somewhere. Mere existence means influence; it is impossible to live for one's self alone. And upon influence rests responsibility. —



THE greatest accomplishment one can possess is most easily acquired — the ability to speak one's mother tongue fluently, forcefully and accurately.



BETTER a rose in the hand than a wreath on the coffin.

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

NEVER worry about ancient history.
What happened is nothing; what may
happen is everything.

58

SOCIAL debts are as sacredly binding
as financial obligations are.

59

MONEY is valuable only when it is
in motion. A dollar hoarded is a dol-
lar dead.

60

A POLITICIAN is a false-alarm states-
man.

61

REFORM always is a most excellent
thing — for others.

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

KEEP your head up and don't dodge
— a star will not hit you.

*•

ALWAYS listen most attentively when
you yourself talk.

*•

ALL of us have our bad points. So,
also, has the rose, which is universally
admired. Don't be a thistle.

*•

THE beauty or ugliness of realism de-
pends very largely upon the personal
point of view.

*•

HATRED is a handicap whose weight
eventually wears out everyone who car-
ries it.

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

AN honest man is the " noblest work
of God " — and the rarest.

58

— A HIGH mark never was hit by a low
aim. —

58

— A DEBASED woman is a greater social
wreck than a debased man because she
has fallen from a greater height. —

58

CELIBACY is the questionable art of
syndicating one's affections.

58

THE highest principle of morality is
to think well.

58

No man is truly great until he is
dead.

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

BETTER a wicked man than a fool. Occasionally the "wicked cease from troubling"; but the fool never does.



YESTERDAY is history; to-morrow is merely a hope; to-day is the only absolute asset of time that is yours. Do it now.



THE average woman cares much less about being respected than she does about being admired. —



FLORENCE burned Savonarola at the stake. To-day she idolizes him. The same gray stones of the Vecchio palace

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

which tower above me as I write looked coldly down on the great reformer's death struggles on this precise spot. And now, behold! A vociferous Italian guide is extolling Savonarola's virtues in emphatic superlatives to a group of awe-struck tourists. Time always pays its debts — but ah, those long deferred installments!

38

To worry about inconsiderable trifles is a disease which afflicts the wise only.

39

THE critic does not always know; he merely thinks he knows.

40

A WOMAN dies the moment she ceases to attract.

30

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

A WORD to the wise is superfluous.

58

EVERY honest man will admit that his life is a failure—a failure so far as concerns the practical realization of its possibilities. But it never is too late to do better. Errors of judgment, neglected opportunities and wanton waste of time and resources may become active factors of strength to one who has thoroughly learned his lessons in the school of experience. A signboard which points out the wrong way may be helpful if its mission be understood.

59

Too often the other man's wife is the angel.

31

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

IF the cares of life beset you, and fret you, I'll bet you that the hoodoo will not get you if you just keep cool.



CONVERSATION is a fine art; talk is merely the highest ambition of a parrot.



MARRIAGE which comes after love is a doubtful factor in the problem of happiness; but love which comes after marriage solves it.



CHARITY should begin at home; but, too often nowadays, it ends there.



BEGIN a new week, a new year, a

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

new life, every day. Why not? One who waits until New Year's day to "swear off" might, with equal logic, wait until doomsday to reform.

58

ONE may love many times; but one can enjoy love to the full but once.

59

WIT springs from the head; humor from the heart. Wit aims at a laugh; humor's reward is a smile, which lies deeper, lasts longer and means more. Wit is dangerous, sparing neither friend nor foe; humor knows no foe and is ever friendly. Wit is the searing flash of the lightning; humor the genial glow of the sunshine. Wit is conscienceless; humor never gives of-

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

fense. Wit's weapon is the stiletto; humor has no weapon and needs none.

**

THERE is no such thing as a death sentence. Man is sentenced for life; death is a reprieve.

**

EVERY man is the center of his own universe.

**

ONE, sometimes, is a crowd. If the "blue devils" attack you, and petty worriments surround you, and regrets annoy you; read the riot act, disperse the mob and insist on being alone.

**

Do most of your love-making after

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

marriage and limit it to your own family.

¶

NATURE weaves prettier lace patterns upon the frosty pane than human hand ever has been able to fashion.

¶

A MAN may be “known by the company he keeps”; but a woman is known by the company she keeps out of.

¶

SOON or late the world will know exactly what you are. It is impossible to run away from your own shadow.

¶

No wonder the maple is flaming

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

with blushes to-day; Jack Frost kissed her last night.

38

WHAT the world calls bravery very often is little more than the fear of ridicule.

39

THE man who is absolutely sure of himself has nothing on earth to fear except himself.

40

HUNGER knows no morals.

41

NEITHER look for trouble with a telescope, nor at trouble with a microscope.

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

GAMBLING can not be universally condemned as long as marriage is commended.



THE best dressed man is he whose clothes attract no attention whatsoever. And of course "man" embraces woman.



THE path which leads to fame is not easy but the way is plain; do something better than it ever has been done before and better than anyone else can do it.



EVERY element of strength, or of weakness, in a man's character will cry

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

aloud from the work he leaves behind him.



THE only way to break off a bad habit successfully is to break its neck.



THE early bird catches the worm; which is eminently proper, so far as the bird is concerned, but how about the worm?



Do not try to make everybody happy; you can not do it. Be practical. Make somebody happier; that is within your power every day.



IF you imagine you are always right

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

about others rest assured you are sometimes wrong about yourself.



WHENEVER a man starts out to make a fool of himself why doesn't he stop before he gets there?



LET the heart direct the hand and the head always govern the heart.



KEEP all appointments promptly; if you waste the time of another you are a thief.



Two eyes, two ears, one tongue — tell only half that you see and hear.

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

CHILDHOOD is poetry; old age is prose; and the longer the poetry lasts the better.

*

EVERY minute you save is a minute added to your life.

*

IF you temporarily are forced to associate with those who are beneath you study the causes which keep them where they are.

*

NEITHER imagine that secrecy furnishes any excuse for sin nor that it offers any security for the sinner.

*

Do the best you can; that is all the angels are doing nowadays.

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

MANY a man who has been "disappointed in love" never found it out until after he was married.



THE three primal instincts of every animal are to defend itself, to seek for food and to propagate its species. And those instincts govern mankind just as forcibly and unerringly as they control the lower brutes.



DEEDS are thoughts in action. If you would do good think right.



DUTY is my belief in what another man should do.

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

Do not dream of what you are going to do by and by; wake up and do it now.



No one fails who is thoroughly determined to succeed. Occasional setbacks are common to all; but permanent failure comes only to him who is weakly willing to accept it.



KNOWING when often is as important as knowing how.



THE best government is the least government which allows complete freedom to the individual.



LOVE is selfishness multiplied by two.

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

THE brain needs exercise as well as the body. Do not be afraid to do your own thinking.



SOON or late every man has a chance to become great; but Opportunity can be caught only by the forelock.



THE truth should not be spoken at all times and nothing but the truth should be spoken at any time.



IF the fish do not bite change your bait.



THERE is always something new under the sun — a new day with new

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

hopes, new aspirations and new responsibilities.

❖

DON'T drift; there is no credit in that. The dead always go down stream.

❖

KEEP cool, spiritually; it doesn't pay to boil over at a low temperature.

❖

NEVER consider yourself truly famous until you are slandered by those who know absolutely nothing about you.

❖

REAL life consists of growing young.

❖

THE resurrection of a flower in

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

springtime is wonderful and yet it excites no wonder. It is a fact, patent to all, and is accepted as one of the ordinary processes of nature. Why should any resurrection be regarded as impossible?



IT is as dangerous to repress the natural emotions as it is to plug the safety valve of a steam boiler.



A MAN'S past often proves his undoing. Remember that you are building yours now. The present is the past of the future.



THE sweetest songs are never sung; they fill the heart but find no tongue.

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

You have no more right to be happy without trying to make others happy than you have to be a non-producing consumer of any other form of wealth.

*•

THE only man who escapes criticism is the one who does not deserve consideration.

*•

SELF satisfaction is a broken mainspring; it stops the wheels of progress and produces no other results.

*•

At every hour of life there always is one best course to pursue, one best path to follow, one best thing to do. He who always chooses right is little

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

less than a genius but he who chooses at random plainly invites disaster.

* *

IT is as unwise to under-estimate one's abilities as it is to over-estimate them. The truly wise man does neither.

* *

BE natural. Artificiality is deceit and deceit always is unpardonable.

* *

STAGNATION means death. Keep moving.

* *

SOARING aspirations are eminently praiseworthy; but for safety they should be securely anchored. It is foolish to cut the string of your kite.

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

IF you do not want the worst of it
always make the best of it.

*
*

REVENGE is invariably the weapon
of the coward. Misdeeds always
avenge themselves.

*
*

THE man who wins in the race of
life is he who constantly forges ahead,
not he who dazzles the world by occa-
sional outbursts of speed.

*
*

DOES the world call you a "crank?"
Well, what of it? It is a compliment.
The crank forces action; it does
things, accomplishes things. It is the
symbol of progress. Columbus was a

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

“crank”; so was Galileo, so was Fulton, so was Napoleon, so was every man who ever contributed materially to civilization and advancement. And every one of them was misjudged and scoffed at and reviled. If the world understands you be content; if it does not be patient.

* *

THE fountain of Perpetual Youth can be found only in the land of Contentment.

* *

IT is a mistake to live constantly in the fear of death; live rather in the fear of life. Without death the life that is would be the saddest of all human tragedies.

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

TAKE yourself seriously if you wish others to regard you so.

8

SUCCESS demands not only that you should know yourself but also that you must recognize your opportunities.

8

LAWs never change; statutes often do. A river flows down hill according to a law; its channel may be shaped and directed by statute.

8

MANY a man has been forced into comparative failure by the tyranny of a steady job.

8

A CLEAR mind can not be preserved in alcohol.

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

ANYTHING is good only as far as it goes. Try this with a railway ticket.

58

“No” is the easiest word to pronounce and the hardest one to say.

59

A THING of beauty is not always a “joy forever.” Otherwise the milliners would have to go out of business.

60

TREAT the unsuccessful with consideration, forbearance and sympathy; but choose your associates from those who are successful.

61

IT is never too early to mend.

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

Do everything decently, consistently and in order. Nature never produces results in a haphazard manner and man cannot improve upon her methods.

*
*
*

IT is best always to look on the bright side of things. Your mirror should teach you that.

*
*
*

AN all-wise Creator did not design that all of us should fill great rôles; some of us must be content to serve in the chorus. And a good supernumerary deserves more credit than a bad principal.

*
*
*

IT is far nobler to deserve success

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

and fail than to win success undeservedly.

58

GREATNESS does not depend upon size. Napoleon, if he were living today, would not be eligible for appointment upon any police force.

59

A CHURCH is not a "house of worship." It is not a house at all, for any purpose or under any circumstances. A church is a living, breathing, flesh and blood entity striving for the highest spiritual and moral advancement. There is a difference between a clam shell and a clam chowder.

53

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

IN every game of cards there are four knaves — generally more.

8

IT is the pace that kills, not the length of the course or the handicap one carries.

8

Do not try to regulate the sun by your watch.

8

LIFE is real; but it should be flavored with the ideal. When it becomes merely a matter of facts and statistics and the correlation of causes and effects it lacks the inspiration which only imagination, ideality and enthusiasm can supply.

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

WHEN you reach the forks of the road Conscience is a safer guide than Pleasure.

§

EVERYTHING has its uses. Even the fop feeds the tailor.

§

LIVE close to Nature and obey her laws if you would live close to contentment, happiness and peace.

§

ANY form of religion which is good for anything is as good for this world as it is for the next.

§

MODESTY is not a matter of dress or the lack of it.

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

JUDGED by the standard of the commonplace genius is little more than a form of insanity.



“SOFT words,” says a familiar adage, “butter no parsnips.” True; but do not worry about the parsnips. Soft words lubricate the machinery of business life, society and diplomacy and are most effective in accomplishing results.



A CAGED lion is no more the king of beasts than is a free squirrel.



NEVER worry about what has been done; consider carefully what it is best to do.

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

THE best beauty doctor is a happy heart.

58

COMPARED with the universe the world is merely a grain of sand and man an infinitesimal atom. Yet each has its definite metes and bounds. Mind alone is limitless.

59

THE heart speaks an international language.

60

NEVER judge a man by the hat he wears; judge him by what is under it.

61

THE lie which is not spoken always

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

is the most dangerous and the most despicable.

¶

SUNSHINE is most appreciated when there are just enough shadows for sharp contrast.

¶

THE world is the best school and travel is the best teacher.

¶

COMPLIMENTS cost nothing and are worth nothing, unless they are based on sincerity and are backed by intelligence.

¶

THE four cardinal principles of a gentleman's code are gentleness, politeness, charity and forbearance.

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

BETTER a crust with love than a feast without it.

* *

ALWAYS hope for the best and be prepared for the worst.

* *

He who has enough with contentment is rich; but he who has wealth without contentment is poor.

* *

NEVER cast your bread upon the waters unless you prefer it soggy.

* *

IT is much more creditable to do a little thing well than to do a great thing badly.

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

Do not overlook the little things of life. Fleas, for instance.

* *

ALL the faculties should be developed symmetrically before any attempt is made to specialize. No one can do all things equally well; but he who can do only one thing well is neither broadly educated nor evenly balanced.

* *

LET the boy whistle. May be he needs an escape valve for his youthful enthusiasm which you know nothing about.

* *

CHEER up! The flowers of spring lie just beneath the snows of winter.

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

Do not imagine that you can experiment with any form of vice or dissipation without being hurt by it. Nature's debts always must be paid in full.



MUSIC is not always an art; sometimes it is a nuisance. The mosquito is a fine singer.



MAKE wisdom grow with you. Many a man who is wise at thirty is a fool at fifty.



IT often is wise to give; but it always is foolish to squander.



A FLOWER is no more marvelous

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

than a stone. It may be more beautiful, more impressive, more pleasing; but there is nothing marvelous in any of the normal processes of natural development.



A FRIENDSHIP which is loyal in all other things can not always be trusted safely in affairs of love.



KEEP the books of life balanced; live every day as if it were your last.



ONE-HALF of discretion is cowardice.



NEVER attempt to read a human doc-

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

ument until you know all the conditions under which it was produced.



MANY things may attract a stranger to you but only sincerity can make him your friend.



MIND and body without health are as ineffective as a locomotive without steam.



IF you would be considered wise keep your eyes and ears open and your mouth shut.



NEVER place any confidence in what may happen; it probably will not.

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

Do not be ashamed to change your opinions if you believe they are wrong. The wise man always does so; the fool never.

58

HE who speaks thoughtlessly is a marksman who shoots without taking aim.

59

A SECRET can be kept by one or by two. When three keep it it is no longer a secret.

60

Good can come from evil as well as from good.

64

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

MONEY talks; but it's not always wise to listen to it.



VICE is most dangerous when it wears the cloak of Virtue.



THE one best bet at the racetrack is that you will lose.



IT is foolish to worry about what you have; it is worse than foolish to worry about what you have not.



A FEW friends are better than many acquaintances.



THE fiercest storm is soonest over.

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

MONEY is a medium of exchange, not a measure of worth. Many a man who has a million dollars is not worth a cent.

58

BE mindful of what the world thinks; but be not ruled by it absolutely.

59

EDUCATION develops but it does not create. Intelligence denotes brain; sincerity denotes heart; education can supply neither if it be lacking.

60

IN the ultimate analysis selfishness is the chief motive force of every human action.

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

LIFE is a river — not a quiet, restful stream which mirrors back the sunshine and delights the green meadows, but a hurrying, turbulent torrent. Wave after wave of events rush past us so rapidly that the eye can hold them only a fleeting moment. On and on they go, whirling, eddying, fretting themselves into foam, crowding, jostling, pushing each other forward, until at last they reach the common end of all and are swallowed up in the measureless ocean of eternity.



NATURE never put a frown on a human face. Why should you do it?



THE most wonderful thing in the

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

world is a woman's heart. No man ever has been able to sink a plummet to the bottom of it.



SILENCE often is a most effective force.



AN enemy sometimes is more valuable than a friend.



BE honest with yourself and you can not fail to be so with others.



WELCOME, Night. Day — noisy, bustling, brawling, sweating day — has gone and now comes a blessed respite from toil and trouble and turmoil. The worn artisan welcomes this hour

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

of rest and recuperation as a heaven-sent oasis in the dreary desert of grinding activity. The intellectual worker welcomes it because now the mental faculties are keenest, the judgment is clearest and thought is most sharply defined. For him night means not slumber; it is the time for meditation, for introspection, for analysis, for close communion with all the inner forces of life. It is the spiritual day, thrice welcome!

38

BEWARE of surety for another unless you are prepared to lose both your money and your friend.

39

IF you would be master of many you

69

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

must be content to be a servant of many.

38

To recognize the false one must know the true.

39

THERE are two things about which one never should worry — that which cannot be helped and that which can be.

40

THE sun always shines somewhere.

41

JUSTICE is as old as existence itself. It began with the world and will endure with it and beyond it. Every human aspiration, every fear, every hope of this world and the next is based upon

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

the belief that ultimately justice will prevail. Even the lowliest living thing could neither hope for more nor expect less.

8

A BUZZ-SAW in action never is a good plaything. Fondle it and something is certain to come off. It is the same with vice.

8

MANY shortcomings easily may be overlooked in one who evinces truth, tact and taste.

8

GAMBLING is sometimes a pleasure, sometimes a pastime, sometimes a passion; but it always is pernicious.

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

THE average divorce decree should have been entered before the marriage license was issued.

8

LANGUAGE may have been "invented to conceal thought"; but too often nowadays it is used to conceal the want of thought.

8

THERE are too many weddings and too few marriages.

8

MISTAKES are expensive; but often they are worth much more than they cost.

8

SUCCESS is composed of patience, persistency and hard work.

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

To be afraid of the unknown is the mark of a weak intellect.

••

INSPIRATION begets work and, strange to say, work begets inspiration.

••

BUSINESS is the art of getting for a thing more than it cost and, generally, more than it is worth.

••

No man ever should fall in love. He should rise.

••

If you are unsuccessful do not tell me that the world owes you a living. It does not. The world owes you nothing. Your worldly balance is on the

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

wrong side of the ledger. You owe the world for life, health and opportunity; if you mismanage your assets you alone are to blame for the results.



FAITH in the unseen is as logical as faith in that which you can see. One cannot see electricity, but who doubts its existence?



Do not imagine that you are much better, or much worse, than the average man; or that under any circumstances you will act much differently than he will. The characteristics of human nature do not vary materially with the individual.

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

Do not try to shift upon Providence the responsibility for what you are or what you do. Fatalism is a cowardly resort to a lie.

**

THE soul requires to be fed as well as the body.

**

KEEP your mouth shut and you will not be sorry you said it.

**

THE Japanese say: "See no evil, hear no evil, speak no evil." To which should be added: "Touch no evil and think no evil."

**

ONE of the prime essentials of an

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

interesting conversation is an attentive listener.

¶

MALICE has a thousand eyes but Love is blind.

¶

POWER does not always mean physical force. A locomotive is powerful but what of the mind that conceived it?

¶

ENVY is a parasite which saps the life of Content.

¶

A blush is the heart's protest against defilement.

¶

A MAN who cannot conquer himself rarely can conquer anything else.

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

IF the world frowns keep on smiling;
sunshine always follows rain.

¶

WHATEVER tends to elevate and en-noble is virtuous; whatever tends to lower and degrade is vicious. All forms of religion teach the same fundamental principles — the encouragement of virtue and the discouragement of vice.

¶

CREEDS are human; religion is di-vine.

¶

RESPECT is the homage which Intel-ligence pays to Worth.

¶

IN matters of the heart a woman's

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

intuition generally is safer than a man's judgment.

8

OFTEN one is loneliest when not alone.

8

GOODNESS sometimes is merely an excuse for cowardice.

8

LOVE is an echo from Heaven heard by the soul.

8

ONLY the mind sins; the body is an absolute slave.

8

EGOTISM may be pardonable but conceit is insanity.

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

THE only irreparable loss is the waste of time.



ONE who is " too good " never is quite good enough.



THE ability to forget sometimes is quite as blessed as the ability to remember.



THE dividing line between a genius and a fool is very slight. A genius is a fool who risks all and wins; a fool is a genius who risks all and loses.



OLD Father Time is the greatest thief in the world. Day after day he steals

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

away our opportunities, our aspirations, our ambitions; he steals the vigor of heart and brain and the light of the flashing eye; he steals the strength of the good right arm and ringlets of brown and black; he steals the glorious dreams of youth; he steals our inspirations, our health, our happiness, our hopes; and he locks them forever in Time's great storehouse of which Memory alone holds the key.



ENVY is pardonable only when it serves as a spur to emulation.



SUCCESS is merely a relative term. Results must be measured by the resources which produce them. If

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

Providence sends into the world a poor unfortunate, crippled in mind and body, is it fair to say he fails in the battle of life if he wins the struggle of existence?

8

THE callow legislator who mistakes himself for a statesman generally believes that it is his first duty to repeal the law of gravity.

8

THE difference between fool-hardiness and bravery rarely is discovered until all the returns are in.

8

AGES ago Marcus Aurelius wrote: "He who has seen present things has seen all, both everything which has taken place from all eternity and every-

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

thing which will be for time without end." What about the electric light? And the locomotive, the battleship, the ocean grayhound, the telegraph, the telephone, the microscope, the telescope, the spectroscope, the balloon, the aeroplane and the latest in woman's head-wear?



I ADMIT that I do not like spiders and yet why should I kill one? He lays his plans, spreads his net and lures his victim into his trap. What more does the successful business-man do?



MISTAKEN kindness is a thankless thing. Never wake a man to give him medicine for insomnia.

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

SOMEONE has said that whenever a man starts on the downgrade everything seems to have been greased for the occasion. Well, isn't it the same when he tries to climb?

*8

A "SCIENTIFIC exposition of the manly art of self-defense," after it takes place, always is a brutal prize-fight.

*8

A SPINSTER is unmarried through choice; an "old maid" is unmarried through necessity. Both are singular.

*8

IN England no "gentleman" can associate with tradespeople; but in America the tradespeople are not so particular.

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

CHAMPAGNE bubbles are headaches and heartaches trying to get out of the glass.

*
*

To rise with the lark may be highly commendable; but a growing tendency toward going out on one all night is a matter which calls for judicious handling.

*
*

SENECA writes about a "false friend." What sort of friend is that?

*
*

SOMETIMES I doubt whether this old world of ours really understands her business. If she did would she spend two-fifths of her income in preparing for murder and providing against it?

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

HAVE you noticed while traveling that there always is a good hotel in the next town?



THE unhappiest man in the world is he who has neither fixity of purpose nor formulation of plan.



"THE play's the thing," undoubtedly, but very often it is a pretty bad thing.



IN Kentucky every man who isn't particular is called General.



THE simplest things are hardest to define. What is time, or space, or light, or truth, or life?

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

NEVER ask the small boy for affidavits when the circus is in town. He is entitled to the same moral discounts which you took when you were young.

58

NEWSPAPER euphemism is a wonderful thing. The man who steals a dollar is a thief; if he steals a hundred thousand dollars he is a defaulter; if he steals a million he is a financier.

59

FIND the measure of your abilities and stick to it. If you are a crow try your voice occasionally but do not attempt to sing.

60

THE sweet girl graduate and the perfervid optimist inform us constantly that

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

“life is what we make it.” Would that it were! The hard, cold fact is that life is made for us and all that remains for us to do is to make the best of it.

58

THE sweetest flowers in the world are those you knew earliest in childhood. Orchids did not grow about the homestead but the lilac and the honeysuckle did and they are worth more than all the exotics in creation.

59

IT is strange how drink affects different persons in different ways. A poor man goes out and gets drunk, the average fellow becomes intoxicated, the well-to-do citizen is inebriated and the

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

rich man is "slightly under the influence of stimulants."

8

THERE can be neither justification nor excuse for carelessness; and as for slovenliness, it is an unmistakable sign of degeneration and decay.

8

NEVER talk very much unless you say something.

8

How many there are who have never lived at all! Life and existence are as unlike as plum pudding and sawdust.

8

WHATEVER you think is right is right, so far as you are concerned.

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

A WOMAN is adorable sometimes, lovable often, changeable occasionally, dangerous always.



A GOOD book is a good friend; particularly if it be a bank book.



HONOR and respect old age. The Golden rule still will be in force long after you are gone.



WHEN you are angry think twice before you speak; but it is much wiser to think twice before you get angry.



WHENEVER you feel that you must

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

choose between two evils change the feeling.



SOMETHING is bound to "turn up" sooner or later — your toes, if nothing else. But don't wait for that; go to work and turn something up.



WHEN you are running a race never stop to consider how far you are ahead of the man behind you. Keep your eyes on the mark and go straight to it.



ACCORDING to the latest English dictionary a widow who asks for an introduction is an ambuscade.



FOUR of a kind: A ship without a

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

rudder, a locomotive without steam, a kite without a string, a man without judgment.

58

THE old school copy books used to assert very emphatically that "keeping everlastingly at it always wins success." That depends. If you are drinking whiskey it doesn't.

59

ONLY a woman can understand a woman. Why should man presume to judge her?

60

IT doesn't take long to convert a hero into a humbug. Many a man who swears he would die for a woman before marriage will not get up and build the fire for her afterward.

91

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

IF Diogenes were living to-day he wouldn't take a lantern to look for an honest man. He would use a mile-a-minute automobile with an electric searchlight. The result would be the same.



HUSBANDS are changeable; but they shouldn't be interchangeable.



WHY worry about trying to talk with Mars? It is far more important to be on speaking terms with neighbors next door.



THE fastest thing in the world is the speed with which a wife from a small

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

town finds out in a larger town that she needs a new dress.



How much happier all of us would be if, instead of trying to realize the ideal, we were to strive to idealize the real.



MANY a swollen ankle passes current in society as a high instep.



ALWAYS "put up something for a rainy day," if only an umbrella.



MANY a man who imagines he knows the world doesn't know his own backyard.

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

THE first excuse of the man who fails is that circumstances were against him. Circumstances always are against the man who fails and in favor of the man who wins; but the latter largely shapes his own circumstances and that way lies success.



THE Devil may not have invented divorce but he certainly uses it as if he did.



ALWAYS look on the other side of it.



THE less you say the less you will have to account for.



HONESTY which is based on the fear

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

of being found out is merely the cowardice of a hypocrite.



A REVOLUTION does not necessarily imply a reformation. Often it is merely a readjustment or transfer of power for the worse.



THE average "self-made man" would like to move for a new trial.



LOQUACITY is no evidence of learning. Many a man with no bank account can make a lot of noise by jingling a few coins in his pocket.



Do not waste a minute to-day in looking for the hour you lost yesterday.

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

ANYTHING new generally is something old; forgetfulness is responsible for many rebirths.



No amount of polishing can make a brass bowl golden. But it can make a better brass bowl.



LOVE making should begin after marriage and it never should end.



GREAT objects cannot be seen well at close range. It is so with men.



IT is wrong to borrow trouble; it is criminal to lend it.

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

A MAN of one idea rarely has the right one.



ARE you better and broader to-day than you were yesterday? If not, you are slipping — put on the brakes before Nature is forced to do it.



No man is so bad that he might not be worse, or so good that he should not be better.



A FOOL sometimes may teach a wise man; but he never is a safe instructor.



POLICY is a sail trimmed to catch any breeze.

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

MAKE every maxim which you sincerely believe a practical part of your daily sailing chart.



DON'T fear failure — deserve success; that's all you can do.



INDISCRIMINATE reading is bad. A good book is a good friend but a trashy book merely sows weeds in your mental garden where only flowers should grow.



WHETHER your life be long or short doesn't matter much; but it should be broad and deep.



IT is not enough to say of a man that

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

he has many good points. So has a porcupine.



THE lion is not the king of beasts.
That title belongs to degenerate man.



THE best is not too good. Perhaps that is why so many of us claim to be the best there is.



“WHILE yet the lamp holds out to burn the vilest sinner may return.” But don’t strive to be the vilest sinner just to prove the accuracy of your lighting proposition.



FAILURE often is the vestibule of success; but don’t loiter in the vestibule.

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

COMMON sense is a misnomer; it really is most uncommon.



THE eyes of the world always are on the head of the procession.



IT is said that "All things come to him who waits." But remember they come much more quickly to him who goes out to see what's the matter.



DON'T fumble if you expect the bleachers to vote for you.



LIFE is a game of chance in which the cards are dealt by Fate. The greatest credit lies, not in playing a
100

THOUGHTS AND THINGS

good hand successfully, but in playing a bad hand well.



WHAT men call " love " often is merely a most ignoble passion. Friendship means more, lies deeper and lasts longer.



A BAD man is simply a good man gone wrong; and he rarely goes so far wrong that it is impossible for him to go right again.



WHENEVER one plans to do better to-morrow the Devil laughs. To-morrow never comes.

THE END

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